DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 456 351 CG 031 112

| | |
|---|---|
| TITLE | Youth Prevention. Technical Assistance Packet. |
| INSTITUTION | Join Together, Boston, MA. |
| PUB DATE | 2000-04-00 |
| NOTE | 7p. |
| AVAILABLE FROM | Join Together, 441 Stuart St., 7th Floor, Boston, MA 02116. Tel: 617-437-1500; Fax: 617-437-9394; e-mail: info@jointogether.org. For full text: http://www.jointogether.org/sa/files/pdf/youthprevention.pdf. |
| PUB TYPE | Reference Materials - General (130) -- Reports - Descriptive (141) |
| EDRS PRICE | MF01/PC01 Plus Postage. |
| DESCRIPTORS | *Adolescents; Community Action; Community Problems; Cooperation; *Drug Education; Elementary Secondary Education; Health Promotion; *Illegal Drug Use; *Prevention; Problem Solving; Public Health; *Substance Abuse |

ABSTRACT

Prevention is the ultimate key to reversing the upward trend in the use of drugs and to empowering communities to address their drug problems. An essential factor is the development and implementation of initiatives to prevent illicit drug use. A goal of prevention for youth is to provide them with a set of skills and tools to help them resist the pressures to use alcohol and other drugs. The most effective strategies for preventing drug use, for keeping drugs out of neighborhoods and schools, and for providing safe and secure environments are cooperative efforts that mobilize and involve all elements of a community. This packet provides tips and resources to help communities undertake needed measures to reduce substance abuse. Youth prevention involves many areas including after-school programs; truancy prevention; education; and mentoring. Also included is a list of national organizations, other publications, and names of community leaders who have expertise in youth prevention. (Contains 14 resources.) (JDM)

Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made
from the original document.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)
X This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.
☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.
• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY
T. Cadet
TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)



# YOUTH PREVENTION

## Technical Assistance Packet

**Join Together:**
**A National Resource for Communities Fighting Substance Abuse and Gun Violence**

**www.jointogether.org**

ED 456 351

**April 2000**

**Description of the Issue**

Prevention is the ultimate key to reversing the upward trend in the use of drugs and empowering communities to address their drug problems. Central to this effort is the development and implementation of initiatives to prevent illicit drug use, including casual use by youth and other high-risk populations. Providing young people with a set of skills and tools that they may use to resist the pressures to use alcohol and other drug is a goal of prevention. The most effective strategies for preventing drug use, keeping drugs out of neighborhoods and schools, and providing a safe and secure environment for all people are cooperative efforts that mobilize and involve all elements of a community. (Center for Substance Abuse Prevention) Youth prevention covers a number of areas including after-school programs, truancy prevention, education, and mentoring.

*What follows is a list of national organizations, publications, community leaders with an expertise in the youth prevention area, and community stories.*

**National and Statewide Organizations**

*Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP)*
CSAP is the federal agency established to fund and encourage creative and effective efforts aimed at reducing and eliminating alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs (ATOD) problems in our society. Onsite consultation, training and printed materials are available. Many of CSAP's publications are available online at www.health.org or by calling the National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information (NCADI) at 800-729-6686. CSAP, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockwall II Bldg., Room 9D16, Rockville, MD 20857; Tel: 1-800-729-6686; www.samhsa.gov/csap/index.html

*Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)*
OJJDP's goals are to provide national leadership in addressing the issues of juvenile delinquency and improving juvenile justice. OJJDP sponsors a broad array of research, program, and training initiatives to improve the juvenile justice system as a whole, as well as to benefit individual youth-serving agencies. Publications are available through Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse at 800-638-8736 or by email at: askncjrs@ncjrs.org. OJJDP, 810 Seventh Street, NW, Washington, DC 20531; Tel: 202-307-5911; Fax: 202-307-2093; Eml: askjj@ojp.usdoj.gov



CG031112

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

*The Youth Leadership Institute*
The Youth Leadership Institute (YLI) is a community-based institute, which joins with young people to build communities which respect, honor and support youth. YLI reaches out to youth who have not traditionally been viewed as leaders and gets them involved in shaping community change. YLI offers extensive training and technical assistance opportunities, designed to share best practices in the field of youth development. 870 Market Street, Suite 708, San Francisco, CA 94102; Tel: 415-397-2256; Fax: 415-397-6674; Eml: Info@yli.org

*"Youth in Action" National Youth Network*
The National Youth Network builds upon and recognizes the power and importance of youth leadership by uniting young people and adults, through communication and action, to enable youth organizations and nonaffiliated youth to have a positive, formidable impact in our communities and in our Nation. Information about the Network can be found at: www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles/yfs9801.pdf or by calling 1-800-638-8736.

*Your Time Their Future Positive Activities Campaign*
The Your Time Their Future Positive Activities Campaign is a national public education campaign developed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The Campaign urges adults to become involved in volunteering, mentoring, and other efforts that help young people, ages 7 to 14, participate in positive activities that build skills, self discipline, and competence. As a result, the Campaign expects to prevent new use and reduce existing use of alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs among youth.

The campaign includes a website with a searchable database that allows you to link up to local efforts to volunteer with and mentor young people. There are also public education campaign materials including brochures, posters, PSAs, activities resource guides, information kit and more. For more information contact: The National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information (NCADI), P.O. Box 2345, Rockville, MD 20847-2345; Tel: 800-729-6686; Eml: yourtime@health.org; www.health.org/yourtime.

*The California Mentor Foundation*
The California Mentoring Foundation is a registered non-profit organization whose primary mission is to assure that state and federal prevention efforts incorporate mentoring as a key strategy to reduce alcohol abuse, drug use, teen pregnancy, academic failure, gang participation and violence. The CMF dedicates funding and technical support to local and national mentoring programs to facilitate quality, mentoring relationships between adults and at-risk youth. Services include: quality assurance standards, data and statistics to quantify mentoring efforts, resource development, public awareness and cause marketing, archiving mentoring literature and best practices. For more information and materials, contact Andy Mecca, Director of the CMF at The California Mentor Foundation, 100 Main Street, Tiburon, CA 94920; Tel: 415-789-1007; Eml: andymecca@worldnet.att.net.

*Youth to Youth International*
Youth to Youth International was founded as a community-based drug prevention and youth leadership program focusing primarily on middle school and high school students. The goal of its many projects is harnessing the powerful influence of peer pressure, making it a positive force that encourages young people to live free of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs. Youth to Youth has a model program, which recognized that nationally and internationally, actions needed to be taken to change attitudes and behaviors surrounding drugs and their usage in this generation, or the resulting conditions in our communities could only get worse. Youth to Youth had a plan for success with teens as the nucleus. Due to the continuing achievement, Youth to Youth is having in the areas of youth involvement and drug prevention at a local level, hundreds of communities in the United States and abroad have chosen the program model to help facilitate favorable change. For more information, call 614-224-4506 or visit the website at www.y2int.com/.

**Publications and How to Order**

*The publications listed here are both free and of modest cost.*

- *Preventing Drug Use Among Children and Adolescents – A Research-based Guide*
  This guide prepared by the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA) provides an overview of the basic principles from drug abuse prevention research to be successfully applied to prevent drug use among young people. Available from the National Clearinghouse on Alcohol and Drug Information at www.health.org or 800-729-6686.

- The following Join Together publications are available online at *http://www.jointogether.org/publications* or by calling Join Together at 617-437-1500:
  - Keeping Kids in School
  - Building on the President's Call to Action
  - Youth Sports: Part of a Strategy to Reduce Substance Abuse
  - Spring 1995 Strategies (newsletter)
  - Fall, 1995 Strategies (newsletter)
  - Youth Access to Tobacco
  - Increase in Marijuana Use Among Young People
  - Policies for Prevention Public Policy Panel Report

- *Talking With Youth About Prevention: A Teaching Guide for Law Enforcement and Others*
  This is a guide for those who work with youth in crime and drug prevention, especially law enforcement professionals. Covers topics for grades K-12. It includes prevention of vandalism, substance abuse, gangs, date rape, personal assault, hate violence, and theft. Available from the National Crime Prevention Council Fulfillment Center, P.O. Box 1, 100 Church Street, Amsterdam, NY 12101; Tel: 800-NCPC-911; Fax: 518-843-6857; www.ncpc.org/.

- *Signs of Effectiveness: Prevention at Work among High-Risk Youth*
  Lessons learned and successes of strategies in the prevention of alcohol and other drug use among high-risk youth are shared in this publication.
  Available from the National Clearinghouse on Alcohol and Drug Information at www.health.org or 800-729-6686.

- *Making the Grade: A Guide to School Drug Prevention Programs*
  This comprehensive guide to the most widely used drug prevention programs in the nation, helps educators and parents make informed decisions on how to spend limited resources.
  Available from Drug Strategies, 1575 Eye Street, NW, Suite 210, Washington, DC 20005; Tel: 202-289-9070; Fax: 202-414-6199; Eml: dspolicy@aol.com; www.drugstrategies.org

- *A Matter of Time: Risk and Opportunity in the Out-of-School Hours*
  This book describes several community programs for youth from around the country and gives recommendations for both community programs and key partners. It also provides a resource list for organizers who are developing or expanding their programs during the out-of-school hours.
  Available from the Carnegie Council on Adolescent Development, PO Box 753, Waldorf, MD 20604; Tel: 202-429-7979.

- *The Future of Children: When School is Out* – Vol. 9 No. 2, Fall 1999. This issue of the Future of Children journal focuses on after-school programs and the growing awareness of the risks and potential that lie hidden in the time children spend outside school. It includes analysis and recommendations and a number of journal articles.
  Available from The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, Circulation Department, 300 Second Street, Suite 200, Los Altos, CA 94022; Fax: 650-948-6498; Eml: circulation@futureofchildren.org.

**Community Leaders**

Belinda Biscoe
Co-Founder
Eagle Ridge Institute, Inc.
601 NE 63rd Street,
Oklahoma, OK 73105
Tel: 405-325-1729
Fax: 405-840-5086

Shellie Coleman
Director of Prevention
Gateway Youth Care Foundation
10639 S. Champlain Street
Chicago, IL 60628
Tel: 773-248-4559
Fax: 773-821-5015

Robert Francis
Director
Regional Youth Adult Substance Abuse Project
75 Washington Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Tel: 203-333-3333
Fax: 203-333-9118

Michael Browning
Executive Director
Day One
132 N. Euclid Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91101
Tel: 626-583-2755
Fax: 626-792-8056

Penny Jenkins
Director
Fighting Back
P.O. Box 28
232 E. Canon Perdido
Santa Barbara, CA 93102
Tel: 805-963-1433
Fax: 805-963-4099

Maureen A. Sedonaen
Founder & Executive Director
Youth Leadership Institute
870 Market Street, Suite 708
San Francisco, CA 94102
Tel: 415-397-2256
Fax: 415-397-6674

**Community Stories**

*Stories listed below are reprinted from Join Together Online. Similar stories can be found at* www.jointogether.org/.

**Exemplary Prevention Programs Selected**
Over the past several years, alcohol and other drug (AOD) abuse prevention programs representing various States, have been deemed exemplary, according to a national review committee that meet to evaluate programs submitted to the **National Association of State Alcohol & Drug Abuse Directors** (NASADAD) and the **National Prevention Network** (NPN) through State AOD prevention agencies and selected national organizations. Program summaries are published in the NPN newsletter "Network News." For more information on selected programs, especially those in your area, contact NASADAD and NPN at 808 17th Street, NW, Suite 410, Washington, DC 20006; Tel: 202-293-0090; Eml: dcoffice@nasadad.org.

**Nashville Prevention Partnership, Nashville, Tennessee**
In 1989, Nashville Network 2000, a group of representatives from 17 public and private social-service agencies, began thinking about Nashville's future, particularly as it related to substance abuse. The Network, through the Nashville Prevention Partnership, works with elementary and middle school children in an attempt to influence them to adopt positive life goals and discourage them from using illegal substances. The partnership targeted an area in East Nashville and created after-school programs, mentoring opportunities, attendance initiatives, and safe passages to and from school. The result was that both test scores and attendance in the targeted area increased. For information, contact Pamela White at 615-297-7635.

**Troy Community Coalition for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse, Troy, Michigan**
In 1985, the Troy School District began to notice a spike in school district data describing student substance abuse, particularly alcohol. The school district created a three-pronged approach to address the problem: implement a new health and peer pressure resistance program; develop a parent group; and create a community program. It was this community program that developed into the Troy Community Coalition for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse. The coalition has had numerous successes. One of the most significant is the work that the group has done to curb a disturbing increase in the rates of alcohol use by Troy teens. Using its "multiple strategies over multiple sectors" approach, the coalition worked with many partners to address this problem. Physicians began to work with parents to help them understand the problems associated with underage drinking. At the same time, coaches spoke to their teams

about the same issue from a different perspective. The police made an increased effort to regulate the shelving of alcohol and the sale of liquor to underage individuals, and wrote a letter to parents directing their attention to the problem of underage drinking. The coalition ran programs such as the Youth Academy in schools in order to provide a safe and educational forum where teens could direct their energy. For more information, contact Mary Ann Solberg at 248-740-0431.

**The Miami Coalition for a Safe and Drug-Free Community, Miami, Florida**

In June 1988, the Miami Coalition for a Safe and Drug-Free Community was created. One of the Miami Coalition's most noteworthy accomplishments is the role it played in helping reduce the percentage of high school seniors who reported using marijuana at least once during the most recent 30-day period. The coalition used a three-part strategy to do this. First, they developed a media strategy to raise awareness of marijuana's ever-increasing potency and to give parents strategies to help talk to their children about drugs. The second part of the plan included the development of a network of prevention agencies to increase understanding of the harmfulness of marijuana. Specifically, the coalition linked marijuana's harmfulness to cigarettes by pointing out the carcinogen that both drugs share. Finally, the coalition made a concerted effort to get the word out to youth. Avoiding dry lectures, the coalition engaged youth in frank roundtable discussions about the direct and indirect harms that result from marijuana use. As a result, the percentage of high school seniors who reported using marijuana within the past 30 days decreased from 22 percent in 1995 to nine percent in 1997. For more information, contact Kim Greene at 305-375-8032.

**Successful Community-School Partnerships**

Community partnerships organized around schools can be effective strategies for forming meaningful responses to drug and alcohol use by young people. Project Northland, a major research initiative, established for youth in 24 northern Minnesota school districts was developed to reduce substance abuse in the class of 1998 through an ongoing intervention program. Guided by a model that a reduction in adolescent alcohol abuse requires participation by the broader community, Project Northland is based on a behavioral theory that suggests that changing individual attitudes towards substance abuse requires altering the norms of the local community and the school environment in particular. Analyses of the programs' effectiveness at the conclusion of the first phase indicated that it had successfully reduced adolescent drinking. When students were at the end of the eighth grade, monthly drinking was 20% lower in the Project Northland districts than those in a control group and weekly drinking was 30% lower. For other examples and a copy of the full text of this excerpt, contact Join Together at 617-437-1500 or via email at info@jointogether.org.